

### REMARKS

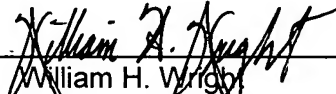
Applicant, through his attorney, gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of a personal interview that was extended by Patent Examiner Gary Estremsky on July 22, 2004.

During the course of the aforementioned interview, the present amendment to the claims was presented for the purposes of discussion and comparison with the references of record.

It was agreed by Patent Examiner Estremsky that the proposed amendment appeared to define patentable subject matter; and, in the absence of more pertinent prior art, a formal Notice of Allowance based thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By

  
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